



Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Program

What are our priorities?

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) [Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Program](#) (AgFF) works with partners in industry, labor, trade associations, professional and service organizations, and academia. The program currently focuses on these areas:

- Conducting research to understand and decrease exposure to hazards that cause disease and injury in AgFF industries.
- Developing and evaluating control measures and technologies to protect workers.
- Producing educational, outreach, and prevention programs to guide workers and employers.

What do we do?

- Provide leadership and coordination for intra- and extramural research and outreach efforts nationwide, including 12 [Centers for Agricultural Safety and Health](#), [Commercial Fishing Safety Research and Training Grants](#), and other NIOSH-funded projects.
- Improve understanding through translation of science and language, engaging formats, and responsiveness to the changing needs of the workforce.
- Advance research-to-practice through active partnerships with stakeholders.
- Sponsor regional, national, and international conferences and sessions to promote research findings and identify research needs.
- Coordinate a multi-state pesticide poisoning case-based surveillance system through the [Sentinel Event Notification System for Occupational Risk Pesticide Program](#).

What have we accomplished?

- Completed an [analysis of workers' compensation claims](#) on mid-sized farming operations in 14 states, providing economic impact data to motivate future injury prevention efforts.
- Partnered with Texas hospital and social service agencies to offer a ["Docside" health clinic](#) for Vietnamese American commercial fishermen (>150), some reporting the clinic as their first time obtaining care in decades.
- Provided technical expertise for Pacific Northwest policymaker and community partners on [heat](#) and [wildfire smoke](#) exposure to [aid in the development](#) of new policies.
- Trained 920 workers during the [2021 Stand-Up for Grain Safety Week](#) in partnership with the Grain Handling Safety Alliance.
- Published on [occupational stress and access to COVID-19 resources](#), finding the most common stressors among Hispanic/Latino farmworkers were a lack of sleep, distance from family, bad weather, lack of medical care, and long work hours.
- Provided [expert testimony](#) for the National Transportation Safety Board's [roundtable to improve commercial fishing safety](#).

What's next?

- Co-host the [Safety for Emerging Robotics and Autonomous Agriculture Workshop](#).
- Complete [Fishing Forward Podcast](#), a collaboration of NIOSH Ag Centers, the National Occupational Research Agenda AgFF Sector Council, and other partners, sharing health information and interviews with commercial fishermen.
- Assess stooped postures among agricultural workers during hand weeding and harvesting activities to develop best practices to minimize injury risk.
- Conclude a pilot study on the use of wearable technology to capture health data among logging workers.
- Host an international symposium on ATV/UTV (all-terrain vehicle/utility terrain vehicle) safety in agricultural spaces, which account for 60% of all occupational ATV/UTV fatalities.

At-A-Glance

The Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Program provides scientific leadership to prevent work-related injuries and illnesses among agricultural, forestry, and fishing workers. This snapshot shows recent accomplishments and upcoming work.

NIOSH AgFF Program & Centers for Agricultural Safety & Health



Average Cost of a Worker's Compensation Claim, 14 states, 2010-2016

\$1,462	Medical Treatment Only
\$18,591	Temporary Disability
\$125,210	Permanent Disability
\$416,182	Death

Source: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18084309>

"Docside" Clinic Medical Services, July 11, 2021



Source: <https://vimeo.com/710970813>

To learn more, visit
www.cdc.gov/niosh/agforfish/
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